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DEBRA EDISON  
7  
8

9 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
10 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
11

12 )  
13 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, )

14 Plaintiff, )

15 v. )

16 DEBRA EDISON, )

17 Defendant )  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26

No. CR 07-0479 WHA

DECLARATION OF ERIC M. HAIRSTON  
IN SUPPORT OF DEBRA EDISON'S  
MOTION TO QUASH GRAND JURY  
SUBPOENA

Court: Honorable William H. Alsup  
Date: January 15, 2008  
Time: 2:00 p.m.

1 I, Eric M. Hairston, declare as follows:

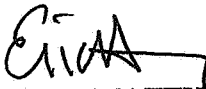
- 2 1. I am an Assistant Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of California. I make  
3 this declaration in support of Debra Edison's Motion to Quash the Grand Jury Subpoena  
4 Served on Michael Thorman. I have knowledge of the facts set forth below and, if called  
5 as a witness in this matter, could and would competently testify to them.
- 6 2. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of First National Mortgage  
7 Sources, LLC and George W. Hannah II's Third-Party Complaint for Indemnity by  
8 Michael Edison, filed in Federal District Court for the Northern District of California on  
9 March 30, 2007 in the civil matter *Jean Phleger v. Countrywide Home Loans et. al.*, Case  
10 No. 07-01686 SBA.
- 11 3. Attached as Exhibit A to the above-referenced Complaint, and therefore also incorporated  
12 into Exhibit A to this declaration, is a true and correct copy of the Complaint filed in San  
13 Francisco Superior Court on February 14, 2006 in the civil matter *Jean Phleger v.*  
14 *Michael Edison; Private Wealth Management Group; and Does 1 through 10, inclusive,*  
15 Case No. 06449433.

16 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Signed this 14<sup>th</sup>  
17 day of December, 2007 in San Francisco, California.

18  
19 Dated: December 14, 2007

20 Respectfully submitted,

21 BARRY J. PORTMAN  
22 Federal Public Defender

23   
24 ERIC MATTHEW HAIRSTON  
25 Assistant Federal Public Defender  
26

# EXHIBIT A

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Attorneys for Defendants and Third-Party Plaintiffs  
FIRST NATIONAL MORTGAGE SOURCES, LLC  
and GEORGE W. HANNAH II

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

JEAN PHLEGER, an individual,  
Plaintiff,

vs.

COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS, INC. (dba  
AMERICA'S WHOLESALE LENDER);  
COUNTRYWIDE BANK, N.A.;  
RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A.; FIRST  
NATIONAL MORTGAGE SOURCES, LLC;  
GEORGE W. HANNAH II, an individual; and  
DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

FIRST NATIONAL MORTGAGE SOURCES,  
LLC and GEORGE W. HANNAH II,

Third-Party Plaintiffs,

vs.

MICHAEL EDISON,

Third-Party Defendant.

Case No. CV 07-01686 SBA

**FIRST NATIONAL MORTGAGE SOURCES,  
LLC'S AND GEORGE W. HANNAH II'S  
THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT FOR  
INDEMNITY**

1 Third-party plaintiffs First National Mortgage Sources, LLC ("First National") and  
2 George W. Hannah II ("Hannah"), for their third-party complaint herein, allege:

3 **JURISDICTION, VENUE, AND INTRADISTRICT ASSIGNMENT**

4 1. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 because the  
5 claims herein are so related to the claims in plaintiff's complaint in this action that they form part of  
6 the same case or controversy.

7 2. Venue in this district is proper and assignment to the San Francisco Division of this  
8 Court is proper, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), because this is part of an action that was removed  
9 to this Court from the San Francisco Superior Court.

10 **THE PARTIES**

11 3. First National is, and at all times mentioned herein has been, a limited liability company  
12 organized and existing under the laws of the State of Kansas, with its principal place of business in  
13 Overland Park, Kansas. First National is engaged in the mortgage brokerage business.

14 4. Hannah is, and at all times mentioned herein has been, a resident of the State of Nevada  
15 and a sales agent employed by First National.

16 5. First National is informed and believes that third-party defendant Michael Edison  
17 ("Edison") may be a resident of the United States Virgin Islands, and is currently in the custody of  
18 the United States Marshal within this judicial district. Edison formerly acted as the wealth manager  
19 of plaintiff Jean Phleger ("Phleger").

20 **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

21 6. This action arises out of Edison's alleged stealing of Phleger's money, and Phleger's  
22 suit against First National and Hannah, among others, to attempt to recover those losses.

23 7. In February 2006, Phleger sued Edison in the San Francisco Superior Court, alleging  
24 that she had retained Edison as her wealth manager, that Edison had obtained mortgage loans in her  
25 name, that the proceeds of the loans had been wired to Phleger's and Edison's joint bank account,  
26 and that Edison had subsequently converted a portion of those monies in their joint account and fled  
27 to the Virgin Islands. A true copy of Phleger's complaint against Edison, in the case of *Jean*  
28 *Phleger v. Michael Edison, et al.*, is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

1           8. Six months later, in August 2006, Phleger filed this suit against First National and one  
2 of its sales agents, Hannah, among other defendants, in the San Francisco Superior Court, alleging  
3 that they were in some manner responsible for Edison's alleged looting of Phleger's and Edison's  
4 joint account. Phleger subsequently amended her complaint two times. A true copy of plaintiff's  
5 Second Amended Complaint against First National, Hannah, and other defendants (including  
6 Countrywide Home Loans, which provided mortgage loans to Phleger) is attached hereto as  
7 Exhibit B.

8           9. If Phleger sustained damages as alleged in her complaints against Edison and against  
9 First National and Hannah, those damages were caused entirely by Edison. First National and  
10 Hannah in fact had no involvement in Edison's alleged stealing of Phleger's money.

11           10. Hannah first met Edison in June or July 2005. Edison told Hannah that Edison had a  
12 number of wealthy clients who desired mortgage loans. Edison asked Hannah to act as the mortgage  
13 broker for one of Edison's clients, Phleger, who wished to obtain a mortgage loan in the amount of  
14 approximately \$4 million.

15           11. During the summer of 2005, Hannah prepared Phleger's loan applications. Edison and  
16 his employees provided information and documents to Hannah for use in preparation of Phleger's  
17 loan applications, and obtained Phleger's signature on the completed loan applications. Phleger met  
18 with Hannah and confirmed to him that she wished to obtain the loans.

19           12. First National and Hannah are informed and believe that Phleger's mortgage loans —  
20 which she obtained from Countrywide Home Loans — closed and were funded in September 2005.  
21 First National and Hannah are informed and believe that a portion of Phleger's loan proceeds were  
22 used to pay off her existing loans and/or lines of credit. First National and Hannah are further  
23 informed and believe that the remaining loan proceeds, in the amount of approximately \$2.3 million,  
24 were wired to a joint account held by Phleger and Edison at Wells Fargo Bank. First National and  
25 Hannah are informed and believe that Phleger signed the account documents opening that joint  
26 account, in May 2005.

27           13. First National and Hannah had no further involvement with Phleger's loans until the  
28 summer of 2006, when Hannah received a telephone call from the risk department at Countrywide

1 Home Loans, asking him questions about the Phleger loans. Hannah later contacted Edison to  
2 inquire whether there had been any problem with the Phleger loans. Edison told Hannah that he  
3 could not imagine Phleger not making payments on the loans, but that Edison was no longer  
4 handling Phleger's financial matters.

5 14. In August 2006, Phleger filed this suit against First National, Hannah, Countrywide  
6 Home Loans, and others, in the San Francisco Superior Court. In her complaint, Phleger sought to  
7 hold First National and Hannah responsible for Edison's alleged stealing of money from Phleger's  
8 and Edison's joint account. Phleger purported to charge First National and Hannah with conspiracy  
9 to defraud, "elder abuse," breach of fiduciary duty, unfair competition, and unjust enrichment, based  
10 on fabricated allegations that First National and Hannah had participated in Edison's purported  
11 scheme to steal Phleger's money.

12 15. After First National and Hannah demurred to Phleger's complaint, Phleger filed a First  
13 Amended Complaint, adding the untrue allegations that First National and Hannah purportedly  
14 "knew" of Edison's scheme to steal Phleger's money and intentionally acted in furtherance of such  
15 scheme. Phleger's purpose in adding these allegations was to defeat First National's and Hannah's  
16 demurrer. Phleger's tactic worked, as the Superior Court overruled the demurrer on the express  
17 ground that Phleger had added the allegations of First National's and Hannah's purported knowledge  
18 of Edison's scheme.

19 16. As the result of the acts of Edison alleged in this Third-Party Complaint and in  
20 Phleger's complaint against Edison and Phleger's complaints against First National and Hannah in  
21 this action, First National and Hannah have been forced to incur attorneys' fees and costs in  
22 defending against Phleger's claims in this proceeding.

### 23 CLAIM FOR RELIEF

#### 24 (Indemnity)

25 17. First National and Hannah reallege and incorporate herein by reference each and every  
26 allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through and including 16 of this Third-Party Complaint.



1           18. An actual controversy has arisen and now exists between First National and Hannah,  
2 on the one hand, and Edison, on the other hand, regarding their rights and legal relations with respect  
3 to each other, in that:

4           (a) First National and Hannah claim and contend that, under the circumstances  
5 alleged herein, if Phleger were to prevail on her complaint against First National and/or Hannah, any  
6 loss or damages that First National and/or Hannah may as a consequence suffer would be based  
7 solely upon Edison's stealing of Phleger's money and other wrongful acts, and not upon any  
8 wrongdoing by First National and/or Hannah;

9           (b) First National and Hannah claim and contend that Edison is liable to them,  
10 under principles of equitable indemnity, for any loss or damages that First National and/or Hannah  
11 may suffer as a consequence of Edison's wrongful conduct with respect to Phleger; and

12           (c) First National and Hannah are informed and believe, and on that basis allege,  
13 that Edison claims and contends to the contrary.

14           19. First National and Hannah desire a judicial determination of the parties' respective  
15 rights and legal relations, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2201, regarding the above issues. Such a  
16 declaration is necessary and appropriate at this time so that the parties may ascertain their rights and  
17 duties with respect to each other and concerning the above conflicting claims. A declaration by the  
18 Court determining which of the conflicting contentions of the parties is correct will terminate the  
19 uncertainty and controversy surrounding the parties' rights and obligations, and thus promote the  
20 interests of justice.

21           20. Such a declaration is necessary and appropriate at this time in that First National's and  
22 Hannah's claim against Edison arises out of the same transactions and series of events that have  
23 given rise to Phleger's claims against First National and Hannah, and a judicial determination of all  
24 said claims in one proceeding will avoid the multiplicity of actions that would result if First National  
25 and Hannah were required to defend against the claims of Phleger and then, if Phleger prevails, seek  
26 recovery from Edison for First National's and/or Hannah's loss or damages resulting from Edison's  
27 wrongful conduct against Phleger.





# EXHIBIT A

**FILED**  
San Francisco County Superior Court

FEB 14 2006

GORDON PARK-LI, Clerk

By: James P. Gordon Deputy Clerk

1 ALLEN MATKINS LECK GAMBLE & MALLORY LLP  
2 ROBERT R. MOORE (BAR NO. 113818)  
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4 Three Embarcadero Center, 12th Floor  
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Telephone: (415) 837-1515  
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CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE SET

5 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
6 JEAN PHLEGER, an individual

JUL 14 2006 - 9 AM

DEPARTMENT 212

**SUMMONS ISSUED**

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

11 JEAN PHLEGER, an individual,

12 Plaintiff,

13 vs.

14 MICHAEL EDISON; PRIVATE WEALTH  
15 MANAGEMENT GROUP; and DOES 1  
through 10, inclusive,

16 Defendants.

Case No. **CC06449433**

COMPLAINT FOR CONVERSION,  
EMBEZZLEMENT, THEFT, INTENTIONAL  
MISREPRESENTATION, NEGLIGENT  
MISREPRESENTATION, ELDER ABUSE,  
VIOLATION OF BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS  
CODE SECTION 17200, DECLARATORY  
RELIEF, TEMPORARY RESTRAINING  
ORDER/PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION/  
PERMANENT INJUNCTION

ORIGINAL

Allen Matkins Leck  
Gamble & Mallory LLP  
attorneys at law

668634.02:SF

COMPLAINT

1 Plaintiff Jean Phleger ("Phleger"), a 67-year-old widow, brings this complaint  
2 against Edison and Private Wealth Management Group ("PWMG") for conversion,  
3 embezzlement, theft, intentional misrepresentation, negligent misrepresentation, elder  
4 abuse, violation of Business & Professions Code section 17200, declaratory relief,  
5 temporary restraining order/preliminary injunction/permanent injunction.

6 **PARTIES**

7 1. Plaintiff Jean Phleger is an individual primarily residing at 2728 Green  
8 Street, San Francisco, California (the "Green Street Residence").

9 2. Defendant Michael Edison ("Edison") is an individual, and is the Chairman  
10 of Defendant Private Wealth Management Group, who at all times relevant herein  
11 conducted business in San Francisco County, California.

12 3. Defendant Private Wealth Management Group ("PWMG") holds itself out as  
13 a limited liability company with offices in Scottsdale, Arizona and Henderson, Nevada,  
14 which at all times relevant herein conducted business with Phleger in San Francisco  
15 County.

16 4. Phleger is ignorant of the true names and capacities of Defendants sued  
17 herein as DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, and therefore sues these Defendants by such  
18 fictitious names. Phleger will amend this Complaint to allege their true names and  
19 capacities when ascertained. Phleger is informed and believes and thereon allege that each  
20 of the fictitiously named Defendants is responsible in some manner for the occurrences  
21 herein alleged, and that Phleger's damages as herein alleged were proximately caused by  
22 such Defendants.

23 5. Phleger is informed and believes, and upon such basis alleges, that at all  
24 times herein mentioned, each of the Defendants herein was an agent, servant, employee  
25 and/or joint venturer of each of the remaining Defendants, and was at all times acting  
26 within the consent and scope of such agency, service, employment and/or joint venture.  
27 Further, the acts of each Defendant, as an agent or employee for each of the remaining  
28 Defendants, were ratified by said remaining Defendants.

**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

1  
2 6. Defendants' intentional acts evidence the maintenance of certain minimum  
3 contacts with the State of California in that these intentional acts are knowingly and  
4 expressly directed at the Phleger by the Defendants and, as a result of those express and  
5 intentional acts, the State of California, including but not limited to the County of San  
6 Francisco, becomes nexus of Defendants' actions and the resulting harms suffered by  
7 Phleger. Phleger is informed and believes and thereon alleges that at all times, the  
8 Defendant knew or should have knew the harms caused by the Defendants' actions would  
9 be suffered by Phleger in the State of California, including but not limited to the County of  
10 San Francisco. Phleger is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that the  
11 Defendants engage in a substantial amount of commerce within the State of California,  
12 County of San Francisco.

13 7. Venue is proper in this Court as governed by California Code of Civil  
14 Procedure section 395 that provides when none of the defendants reside in the state, the  
15 action may be tried in the Superior Court in any county that the plaintiff may designate in  
16 his or her complaint.

17 8. Venue is further proper in this Court as governed by California Code of Civil  
18 Procedure section 395.5 that provides for a corporation to be sued in the county where  
19 liability arises.

20 **BACKGROUND ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CAUSES OF ACTION**

21 9. Phleger, a 67-year old widow, owns a home on Green Street in San  
22 Francisco.

23 10. As of May 2005, there was an existing line of credit with Wells Fargo on the  
24 Green Street Property, in an amount of approximately \$1,000,000.

25 11. In or about May 2005, Defendant Michael Edison ("Edison") met with  
26 Phleger after a referral through a family member. Edison explained to Phleger that he  
27 could pay off the existing Wells Fargo line of credit and obtain a new and increased line of  
28 credit on which Phleger could live.

1           12. Edison said that he would do the line of credit work "pro bono" as a courtesy  
2 to the family.

3           13. Phleger then signed documents, which she believed allowed Edison a limited  
4 right to pay off the existing Wells Fargo line of credit and obtain a new and increased line  
5 of credit on which Phleger could live.

6           14. Unbeknownst to Phleger, Edison failed to simply pay off the existing line of  
7 credit but, rather, obtained a new loan from Wells Fargo, the proceeds of which he  
8 deposited into a joint checking account in a San Mateo County branch office of Wells  
9 Fargo Bank. As of August 31, 2005, the balance of that Wells Fargo account was  
10 \$409,299.74. Phleger did not receive the joint account bank statements; instead, they were  
11 sent to Edison.

12           15. In August, 2005, Edison called and stated to Phleger that he was unable to  
13 pay-off the existing Wells Fargo line of credit and obtain a larger line of credit. Instead, he  
14 stated he would obtain another line of credit from Countywide Mortgage Company from  
15 which he would pay-off the Wells Fargo line of credit. To consummate this transaction,  
16 Edison stated he needed Phleger to sign new documents. He then flew to New York where  
17 Phleger was vacationing so she could sign the Countywide documents. When Edison put  
18 the documents in front of Phleger, she was medicated for back pain and did not have  
19 counsel review the documents..

20           16. In or about September 2005, Edison telephoned Phleger, and informed her  
21 that he successfully obtained a larger equity line of credit with Countrywide Mortgage  
22 Company. Edison told Phleger that he and PWMG would pay her bills and draw upon the  
23 Countrywide line of credit as she directed him to do..

24           17. In or about December, 2005, Phleger learned that Edison was not paying  
25 bills when creditors began contacting Phleger and demanding that various outstanding bills  
26 be brought current. At one point, the electricity company turned off Phleger's power  
27 because of non-payment. Because Edison was purportedly paying Phleger's bills with the  
28 line of credit, she became suspicious and immediately demanded that Edison explain what



1 was being done with the existing line of credit. Edison failed to provide any explanation  
2 for his actions, and refused to provide documentation or any other information explaining  
3 what he had done or what he was doing to manage Phleger's assets and pay her bills as  
4 promised. In fact, Phleger came to learn that Edison had not obtained a higher equity line  
5 of credit as represented to Phleger. Instead, in February 2006 Phleger learned that on or  
6 about September 23, 2006, Edison knowingly and without Phleger's authorization obtained  
7 a mortgage in the amount of \$3,300,000, and a home equity line of credit in the amount of  
8 \$550,000 secured by Phleger's assets. The \$3,850,000 was wired into an escrow account.

9 18. On the same day – September 23, 2005 - the amount of \$2,306,713.79 was  
10 wired from the escrow account into the Wells Fargo bank account Edison held jointly with  
11 Phleger. That amount constituted the proceeds from the mortgage and home equity line of  
12 credit mentioned in paragraph 17 above.

13 19. After September 26, 2005, Edison began writing checks and withdrawing  
14 funds from the joint Wells Fargo account. During the period from September 20 to  
15 October 18, 2005, Edison wrote checks against the joint account in amounts totaling  
16 approximately \$430,000. That amount includes checks totaling in excess of \$375,000  
17 made payable directly to Defendant PWMG.

18 20. On or about October 17 and October 31, 2005, Edison caused to be  
19 transferred from the joint account the amounts of \$250,000 and \$300,000, respectively,  
20 into his private Wells Fargo bank account. Phleger is not an account holder, is not named  
21 on the account to which those funds were transferred and did not authorize the transfer.

22 21. On or about November 1 and November 3, 2005, Edison caused to be  
23 transferred from the joint account the amount of \$1,500,000 into his private Wells Fargo  
24 Brokerage account. Phleger is not an account holder and is not named on the account to  
25 which those funds were transferred.

26 22. In less than four months, as a result of Defendants unauthorized transfer of  
27 funds to his personal account, the balance of the joint Wells Fargo account had dropped  
28 from \$2,306,713 to a mere \$2,668.42.



1 23. As of January 31, 2006, the principal balance on the home equity line of  
2 credit for which Phleger is liable was \$548,712.58 and \$3,299,629.95 on the mortgage.

3 24. Phleger has demanded that Edison return the money to the joint account  
4 and/or pay off the mortgage and home equity line of credit with Countrywide Home  
5 Loans. Edison has failed and/or refused to do either, and has failed to return phone calls,  
6 emails and faxes demanding that he return the funds.

7 25. On information and belief, it is believed Edison is in the process of closing  
8 his offices in Scottsdale, Arizona and Henderson, Nevada, and is in the process of leaving  
9 the United States for the British Virgin Islands.

10 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

11 **(Conversion Against All Defendants)**

12 26. Phleger realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 25 as  
13 though fully set forth herein.

14 27. Phleger alleges that Defendants wrongfully converted Phleger's assets for  
15 their own benefit, in amounts believed to be in excess of two million dollars.

16 28. Phleger has demanded payment from Defendants, and Defendants have  
17 failed and/or refused to pay Phleger.

18 29. Defendants retained Phleger's assets for Defendants' benefit.

19 30. Defendants have no right or title to these assets, and has wrongfully  
20 exercised dominion and control over those assets.

21 31. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' wrongful acts, Phleger has  
22 been damaged in an amount in excess of the jurisdictional limits of this Court, to be proven  
23 at trial.

24 32. The forgoing conduct of Defendants was undertaken with oppression, fraud,  
25 or malice, and Phleger is entitled to punitive damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

**(Embezzlement Against All Defendants)**

33. Phleger incorporates by this reference paragraphs 1 through 32 as though fully set forth herein.

34. By Defendants' conduct as described above, said Defendants embezzled assets belonging to Phleger.

35. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' wrongful acts, Phleger has been damaged in an amount in excess of the jurisdictional limits of this Court, to be proven at trial.

36. The forgoing conduct of Defendants was undertaken with oppression, fraud, or malice, and Phleger is entitled to punitive damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

**THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

**(Theft Against All Defendants)**

37. Phleger incorporates by this reference paragraphs 1 through 36 as though fully set forth herein.

38. By their conduct as described above, said Defendants committed theft of funds belonging to Phleger.

39. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' wrongful acts, Phleger has been damaged in an amount in excess of the jurisdictional limits of this Court, to be proven at trial.

40. The forgoing conduct of Defendants was undertaken with oppression, fraud, or malice, and Phleger is entitled to punitive damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

**FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

**(Intentional Misrepresentation Against All Defendants)**

41. Phleger realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 40 as though fully set forth herein..

1       42. In 2005, Edison represented to Phleger that he would obtain a higher line of  
2 credit, pay Phleger's bills by drawing down on that higher line of credit and provide funds  
3 to supplement her income.

4       43. At the time Edison made the representations set forth above, Edison knew  
5 the representations to be false. Phleger is further informed and believes, and thereon  
6 alleges, that the representations were made by Edison with the intent to induce Phleger to  
7 sign a power of attorney allowing Defendants control over Phleger's assets.

8       44. At the time the representations were made and the Phleger took the actions  
9 herein alleged, Phleger was ignorant of the falsity of the representations and justifiably  
10 relied upon said representations because they were made by Defendants. Furthermore,  
11 Phleger could not in the exercise of reasonable diligence have discovered the falsity of the  
12 representations. In reliance on the representations of Edison, Phleger signed a power of  
13 attorney and allowed Defendants to exercise control over Phleger's assets. If Phleger had  
14 known of the falsity of the representations of Defendants, Phleger would not have taken  
15 such action.

16       45. As a direct and proximate result of Phleger's justifiable reliance upon the  
17 aforementioned representations, Phleger did not and could not, with the exercise of  
18 reasonable diligence, discover the true facts surrounding the misrepresentations. It was not  
19 until February 2006 when Phleger first discovered that Defendants' representations were  
20 false.

21       46. Phleger has been damaged by her reliance on the representations and  
22 fraudulent conduct of Defendants. Phleger is informed and believes, and thereon alleges,  
23 that the true nature and extent of the damages that they suffered is presently unascertained,  
24 but in excess of \$2 million dollars. Phleger will seek leave to amend this Complaint to  
25 allege the true nature and extent of the damage when ascertained.

26       47. Phleger is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that the conduct of  
27 defendants in making misrepresentations was malicious, wanton and willful, and justifies  
28 an award of punitive damages.

**FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

**(Negligent Misrepresentation Against All Defendants)**

1  
2  
3 48. Phleger realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 47 as  
4 though fully set forth herein.

5 49. In 2005, Edison represented to Phleger that he would obtain a higher line of  
6 credit, pay Phleger's bills by drawing down on that higher line of credit and provide  
7 funding to supplement her income.

8 50. At the time Edison made the representations set forth above, Edison knew or  
9 should have known the representations to be false. Phleger is further informed and  
10 believes, and thereon alleges, that the representations were made by Edison with the intent  
11 to induce Phleger to sign a power of attorney allowing Defendants control over Phleger's  
12 assets.

13 51. At the time the representations were made and the Defendants took the  
14 actions herein alleged, Phleger was ignorant of the falsity of the representations and  
15 justifiably relied upon said representations because they were made by Defendants.  
16 Furthermore, Phleger could not in the exercise of reasonable diligence have discovered the  
17 falsity of the representations. In reliance on the representations of Edison, Phleger signed  
18 a power of attorney and allowed Defendants to exercise control over Phleger's assets. If  
19 Phleger had known of the falsity of the representations of Defendants, Phleger would not  
20 have taken such action.

21 52. As a direct and proximate result of Phleger's justifiable reliance upon the  
22 aforementioned representations, Phleger did not and could not, with the exercise of  
23 reasonable diligence, discover the true facts surrounding the misrepresentations. It was not  
24 until February 2006 when Phleger first discovered that Defendants' representations were  
25 false.

26 53. Phleger has been damaged by her reliance on the representations and  
27 fraudulent conduct of Defendants. Phleger is informed and believes, and thereon alleges,  
28 that the true nature and extent of the damages that they suffered is presently unascertained,

1 but in excess of \$2 million dollars. Phleger will seek leave to amend this Complaint to  
2 allege the true nature and extent of the damage when ascertained.

3 54. Phleger is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that the conduct of  
4 defendants in making misrepresentations was malicious, wanton and willful, and justifies  
5 an award of punitive damages.

6 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

7 **(Elder Abuse Against All Defendants)**

8 55. Phleger realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 54 as  
9 though fully set forth herein.

10 56. Phleger was an elder over 65 years of age at all relevant times and within the  
11 class of persons protected by Penal Code section 368.

12 57. Each of the said Defendants had the care, custody, or control or stood in a  
13 position of trust with Phleger.

14 58. Defendants, and each of them, as care custodians, willfully caused or  
15 permitted Phleger's assets to be unlawfully depleted.

16 59. The conduct of Defendants, as alleged, constitutes neglect as defined in  
17 Welfare and Institutions Code section 15610, *et seq.*

18 60. The conduct of Defendants, as alleged, constitutes fiduciary abuse as defined  
19 in Welfare and Institutions Code section 15610 *et seq.*

20 61. The conduct of Defendants, as alleged, constitutes malice, fraud, reckless  
21 and oppression, entitling Phleger to consequential and punitive damages in an amount to  
22 be determined at trial.

23 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

24 **(Violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200 Against All Defendants)**

25 62. Phleger realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 61 as  
26 though fully set forth herein.





1 71. Unless restrained and enjoined by the Court, Phleger will be irreparably  
2 harmed. Furthermore, Defendants will remain in control of and deplete Phleger's assets at  
3 a rate and in a manner not permitted by law.

4 72. Injunctive relief is also necessary to prohibit Defendants from taking further  
5 action which is not in the best interests of Phleger.

6 73. Injunctive relief is also appropriate to prevent a multiplicity of actions.  
7 Unless restrained and enjoined, Phleger will have to bring successive actions each time  
8 Defendants unreasonably deplete Phleger's assets.

9 74. Phleger is therefore entitled to a temporary restraining order and preliminary  
10 injunction restraining Defendants from withdrawing or transferring funds from any bank,  
11 brokerage, or other accounts from which Defendants have transferred funds rightly  
12 belonging to Phleger.

13 **PRAYER**

14 WHEREFORE, Phleger prays for relief as follows:

15 1. A temporary restraining order, restraining Defendants from withdrawing or  
16 transferring funds from any bank, brokerage, or other accounts from which Defendants  
17 have transferred funds rightly belonging to Phleger;

18 2. An Order to Show Cause why a preliminary injunction should not issue,  
19 enjoining Defendants from withdrawing or transferring funds from any bank, brokerage, or  
20 other accounts from which Defendants transferred funds rightly belonging to Phleger;

21 3. That Phleger be awarded general damages in an amount to be proven at trial;

22 4. That Phleger be awarded consequential damages in an amount to be proven  
23 at trial;

24 5. That Phleger be awarded punitive damages in an amount to be proven at  
25 trial;

26 6. For recoverable attorneys fees and costs of suit pursuant to statute; and,

27 7. Such further relief as the Court may deem proper and just.  
28



**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Phleger hereby demands a trial by jury.

Dated: February 14, 2006

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By:

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JEAN PHLEGER, an individual